

# PHILOSOPHY and PURPOSE

## OF ALBERTA HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

The Human Rights Act of Alberta is directed toward the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The principle importance of the Act lies in the encouragement it gives to a climate of tolerance and understanding which will save some persons from being subjected to indignity or placed at a social disadvantage because of race, religious beliefs, colour, ancestry or place of origin.

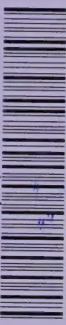
While prejudice cannot be legislated out of existence nor desired attitudes forced, the citizens of Alberta are encouraged to act upon the principle of the Act to eliminate discriminatory practices.

The moral weight of society today is against such discrimination and it is hopefully anticipated that this principle will be accepted by every citizen of the province, since each has a personal interest in the recognition of the equal dignity and rights of all and the social well-being of the community.

To give substance to this principle The Human Rights Act received assent on April 15, 1966 in the Legislative Assembly of Alberta and came into effect on September 1, 1966.

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Alberta Human Rights Act and the Apartment Dweller. July 1, 1969.



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# The ALBERTA HUMAN RIGHTS ACT and the APARTMENT DWELLER



PROVINCE  
OF ALBERTA  
DEPARTMENT  
OF LABOUR  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
BRANCH



# DISCRIMINATION IN NON-PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION

**Apartment dwellers or any person involved in the rental of a self-contained dwelling unit in a building which contains three or more such rental units.**

Since September 1st, 1966, The Alberta Human Rights Act has provided protection against unfair and discriminatory practices in employment, public accommodation and services on the grounds of race, religion, colour, ancestry or place of origin. As of July 1st, 1969 this protection has been extended to include non-public accommodation, described as buildings that contain three or more self-contained dwelling units that are available for renting.

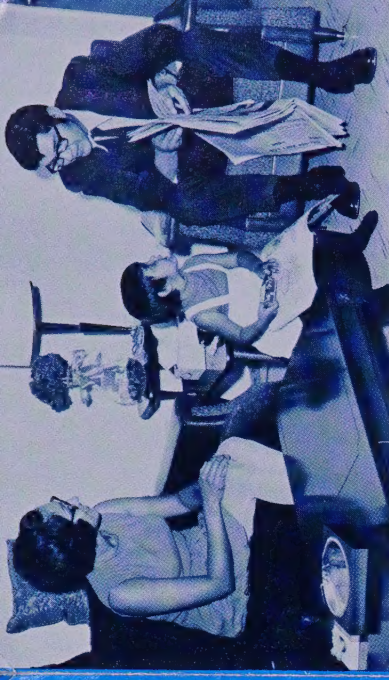
This means that if you are seeking accommodation in a building of at least that size, no landlord or his agent has the right to refuse you rental of a suite simply because of his personal feelings about your race, colour, religion, ancestry or place of origin.

**sex included as of July 1, 1971.**

# The ACT and The LANDLORD

Some landlords may feel reluctant to rent to persons of minority group status fearing reaction from other tenants and neighbors, or a resultant decline in tenant standards and property values.

Studies show that such fears are basically without foundation, and that renting to persons of differing ethnic backgrounds definitely need not disrupt the proper operation of any apartment. Against the few who might show displeasure there are many more who in all likelihood will welcome the cultural advantages that such an exchange can bring to their environment. Most will wholly endorse the right of the family to rent, if they are qualified, and the landlord's right to rent to such a family. Experience has proven that tenants who are genuinely satisfied with their apartments seldom move because of the racial or national origin of their neighbors.



As to the question of standards, the landlord retains the prerogative to deal with each tenant or prospective tenant of whatever background who doesn't measure up to his standards of operation exactly as he would any other tenant, or individual seeking to become a tenant. The intention of The Human Rights Act is to ensure that existing standards be applied equally to all.

A clearly defined policy of fair practice based on a sense of justice and sound business procedure is the landlord's best guarantee of a positive return on his investment. Financial loss occurs when apartments are held vacant while qualified applicants are turned away. The key to success is primarily a willingness on the part of all concerned in the rental relationship to act intelligently and fairly; and thus help make social justice a reality in the lives of all Alberta's citizens.

For further information concerning this or any other aspect of Alberta's human rights legislation contact:

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Room 1007, I.B.M. Building,  
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EDMONTON 6, Alberta.**